

## **The Hold Steady "Hostile, Mass"**

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A knockoff necktie  
The way he wore it made it look more like a tourniquet  
I looked deep in his eyes  
I saw Lynn, Massachussetts

She hung a sleeveless dress up on a sleeved up  
lifestyle  
Girl you gotta cover that  
He was gushing blood from wide open wounds  
And she decided that she loved him

They put the screws into Charlemagne  
He had a detox dream he saw Christ in all his glory  
Charlemagne didn't feel any pain  
But he's bleeding from the holes in his story

He said, "Hey my name is corey.  
I'm really into hardcore. People call me Hard Corey."  
Don't you hate these clever people  
And all these clever people parties

In the park drinking Dark Bacardi  
Thinking things are funny when they really ain't that  
funny  
The kids on the corner they keep getting stung  
The color of our teeth matches the color of our tongues

In the back bay fens getting gentle  
Up against the fence with some guy who looks like  
Mickey Mantle  
Dirty minds keep coming thru the mud  
The color of their eyes matches the color of our blood  
He had a painters cap, it said "Panama Jack"  
It had the flaps on the back that kept the sun off his  
neck  
He woke up deep in Hostile, Massachussetts  
Reaching out to try to touch the special effects

He had no shoes and no pants  
And they dressed him in a shirt with a collar and called  
him Porky Pig  
The two of you went up to his room

Later on you wouldn't admit you did

Seeing lousy movies but only for the A/C  
Skimpy little outfits and bad guys acting crazy  
That's how I know when you're lying  
It looks just like overacting

Kids on the corner are cracking and caving in  
Turning over and turning other kids in  
I never want to make you feel uncomfortable  
I hope I never did

They met as kids he was angry and angsty  
Yeah, she was a damned good dancer  
I'll be damned if they didn't disappear  
Wandered out of mass one day and faded into the fog  
and love and faithless fear.

Charlemagne in sweatpants and you and me in Hostile,  
Massachussetts

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